









## Electricity may be cut; Gaza's bill still unpaid

Jerusalem Post Reporter

"We expect the city of Gaza to return to the Stone Age on Monday," Gaza town clerk Isam al-Sayid said yesterday. He was responding to a request from the Electric Corporation for some 400,000 in value added tax which has been accumulating on Gaza's electric bills since last August. The company has threatened to cut off the town's electricity if payment of the tax is not made by May 1. As, like other towns in the administered territories, buys its electricity in bulk from the Electric Corporation and sells it in turn to local residents. An informed source here said the Electric Corporation had been asked by the military authorities to give the Gaza municipality a period of grace in paying the tax. We have been caught between military officials on the one hand and military authorities on the other. After Tulkarm agreed to pay tax, setting a precedent, did we take the request from Gaza," the Electric Corporation spokesman said. According to Shawa, many schools and public institutions have generators, but he claimed that households would be left without electricity. "We lived on wood and charcoal before we could do it again," Shawa said.

Once editors to meet  
A four-day meeting of editors of 100 journals opens in Jerusalem tomorrow, sponsored by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. The First International Conference of Scientific Editors will hear reports by representatives from a dozen countries on the state of publishing in their fields. The theme of the conference is "Scientific Information for the Editor's Role in the World."



Surrounded by a crowd of mourners, Rav-Seren Moshe Marzouk's mother stands by the wreath-laden graves of her son and Rav-Seren Shmuel Azar after their burial at the military cemetery at Jerusalem's Har Herzl.

## Marzouk and Azar laid to rest in military funeral

Rav-Seren Moshe Marzouk and Rav-Seren Shmuel Azar, the Israeli soldiers hanged in Egypt in 1955, were buried yesterday in full military ceremony in the Har Herzl cemetery in Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, cabinet ministers, Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Mordechai Gur and other dignitaries including Golda Meir followed the company of soldiers which escorted the two coffins borne

on military vehicles to the cemetery. Marzouk and Azar were laid to rest next to Eliyahu Hakim and Eliyahu Beit-Turi, both victims of the Parasha, whose bodies were returned to Israel. Chief Army Chaplain Aluf Gad Navon said Kadish.

Marzouk and Azar were eulogized by Robert Dassa, a member of their team in Egypt who was sentenced to 15 years in jail and was repatriated

in 1968, and by Defence Minister Shimon Peres. Peres said that while the circumstances of the Parasha were a source of controversy, Azar and Marzouk's cool bravery and devotion to Israel were always admired.

After the ceremony wreaths from the President, the Knesset, the government, the IDF and private citizens were laid on the grave. One wreath bore the inscription "From the Boys."

## Judge: Tel Aviv neglects whirlpool trap at Sheraton Beach breakwater

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A District Court judge yesterday warned the authorities that they are not doing enough to lessen the danger to bathers from whirlpools caused by the breakwater at Tel Aviv's Sheraton Beach.

Judge Moshe Belsky issued the warning as he authorized a settlement under which the municipality is to pay IL250,000 to Mrs. Ziva Drori of Petah Tikva and her three children, whose father Ya'acov Drori drowned in one of these whirlpools in June 1971.

During the court action both sides agreed that the breakwater, which

was built to artificially enlarge the beach, created eddies strong enough to endanger even a competent swimmer.

A 1969 memorandum was introduced that quoted official geological opinion, including that of geologist David Neev, as saying that building the breakwater worsened bathing conditions and increased danger to swimmers.

Mrs. Drori said her husband, a 43-year-old tractor driver, had drowned before her eyes, and that a son who was with him was rescued only with difficulty. The municipality, in its defence, claimed that the drowning took place during a life-guard strike, and that the beach had been posted with "No Bathing" signs.

In his verdict, Judge Belsky said he doubted whether signs were of much use once a person had entered the water. He added that a sign "is no barrier to passing from the safe bathing area to the spot at the end of the breakwater which constitutes a trap."

## Three held in teargas robbery of ticket agency

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Police arrested three men yesterday in connection with the kidnapping of a clerk in a ticket agency on Saturday night and the subsequent theft of IL70,000 from the agency.

The clerk, Arye Tselik, was on duty at the Castel ticket agency at 164 Rehov Ibn Gvirol when two men sprayed him with tear gas when he went to the lavatory.

The two men dragged him to a waiting car with a third man behind the wheel.

The car drove off towards the Tel Baruch area. Tying Tselik's hands and blindfolding him, the men took his office keys, returned to the agency and robbed it of IL70,000.

Tselik finally freed himself and contacted his employer, who in turn called the police.

The three suspects who have been arrested are known to the police. They will be brought to court today for remand.

## After Jaffa club blast Police see rise in 'settling of underworld accounts'

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A handgrenade exploded early yesterday morning in a small Jaffa gaming club, causing some IL40,000 in damage. The blast shattered windows and doors and destroyed furniture inside, but nobody was hurt.

The owner, Meir Hadad, said he had no idea why the charge was set off and by whom. Police said the grenade was of IDF issue.

This incident follows several recent similar crimes. A small Holon workshop was set on fire by an unidentified arsonist last Friday, and a week earlier an explosive charge severely damaged the Bat Yam flat of the father of two witnesses who have agreed to turn state's evidence in a heroin case.

Loosely termed "settling of accounts" in police parlance, the incidents signal the police that some sort of underworld strife is going on. There are no "settling of accounts" or "underworld quarrels" in police statistics. And victims of arson and extortion are not necessarily members of the underworld. But police believe that in a good many of these cases both the victims and the perpetrators belong to the same underworld set.

According to the 1976 police year-

book, the number of reported extortion cases increased by 89.5 per cent last year. The number of arson cases increased by 28.9 per cent. A large number of last year's 55 murders — an increase of 25 per cent over 1975 — also involved the settling of underworld accounts, the police believe.

Unfortunately, as Police Inspector-General Haim Tabori admitted in a recent press conference, the police have had only limited success in dealing with these forms of crime.

Those whose accounts are "being settled," whose shops or homes have been bombed or burned, are afraid of retaliation and invariably claim that they cannot understand why anybody would want to hurt them. Those who are doing the "settling" never remain behind to be questioned.

## U.S. civil aviation experts end stay

A team of U.S. civil aviation experts yesterday submitted to Transport Minister Gad Ya'acobi their recommendations concerning the organizational structure of the planned new central airports authority. The team spent 10 days in Israel at the invitation of the minister.

## Ramat Gan man says police roughed him up 'for no good reason'

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A Ramat Gan man who alleges that he was arrested and roughed up by two policemen for no good reason, has called on the police inspector-general to set up a commission of inquiry into the incident.

The police have appointed an officer to make a preliminary inquiry and submit his conclusions.

The complainant, Eitan Kochavi, stated in a letter written by his lawyer to Police Inspector-General

Haim Tabori that last April 11 he had just alighted from a bus in Rehov Abba Hillel in Ramat Gan when a Ford Cortina pulled up beside him.

A man jumped out of the car, "grabbed" him and asked to see his identity card, Kochavi said. Kochavi said he complied after first insisting to see the policeman's identification. A second policeman who was seated inside the car then allegedly jumped out and hit Kochavi in the neck, told him he was under arrest and ordered him to get into the car.

On the way, Kochavi said, they stopped somewhere on the banks of the Yarkon river, where the policemen pulled him out of the car, pulled his hair and beat and kicked him.

When they finally arrived at the police station, Kochavi said, the two policemen learned that the arrest was a case of mistaken identity.

But Kochavi was told he faced charges of obstructing policemen in the execution of their duty. He also claimed that he was advised not to file a formal complaint, otherwise "you'll get into trouble."

**The Economist**  
April 23, 1977

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## Winter on way out, weatherman says

Jerusalem Post Staff

BET DAGON. — The barometric low which turned spring into winter on Saturday is moving towards Iraq — taking with it the black rain clouds that drenched the country over the weekend.

This was the weatherman's comforting prediction last night. He said that a ridge now moving towards Israel from the central Mediterranean and North Africa will bring temperatures back to normal in a day or two.

On Friday the average temperature was 30 and higher due to the sharav. Saturday the sharav broke and temperatures plummeted at least 10 degrees in most parts of the country.

The rains were on the whole welcomed by farmers and water experts. Most parts of the country have received more than their average annual share: Haifa 679mm (the

yearly average is 508); Tel Aviv 637 (564); Jerusalem 563 (488); Hebron 653 (466); Gaza 420 (371). The Neguev, however, is still behind its annual average, with Beerseba having received only 187mm of its 204 mm yearly average.

In the Jordan Valley an unusual 21 mm. of rain fell during the 48-hour period ending yesterday morning, bringing the area's total to 423 mm. as against an annual average of only 378 mm.

The level of Lake Kinneret has now risen to minus 209.63 below sea-level, with another 68 cm. needed to bring the level up to optimum.

In the Capital, inclement weather forced the postponement yesterday of the "Spring in Jerusalem" festival parade of acrobats, musicians and actors through the city's streets. The event, organized by the Jerusalem Theatre, will probably be held next week.

## Reunited after 38 years: thought family was dead

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (Itim). — Boris Weinstein received a special present for his 70th birthday yesterday. He was reunited with a son and wife he hasn't seen in 38 years.

Rav-Pakad Reuven Weinstein of the police fraud division last saw his father in Russia in 1939, when Reuven was five years old. At the start of the Second World War the elder Weinstein was conscripted into the Red Army. Reuven and his mother came to Israel in 1948, after receiving word that Boris had been killed in action.

Boris apparently believed his wife and son had also been killed, because he remarried after the war and raised a new family. But a relative discovered a couple of years ago that Boris Weinstein was still alive, and put him in touch with his Israeli family.

In February Rav-Pakad Weinstein applied to the Soviet authorities to let his father visit Israel as a tourist. He received no reply.

But on Friday he got a telegram from Vienna saying that his father — just turned 70 — would be arriving early yesterday morning.

Mrs. Reuven Weinstein said she had recognized her father-in-law immediately, "because he is the spitting image of my husband."

The elder Weinstein will spend several weeks in Israel before returning to the Soviet Union.

## Punished for reporting on idleness in army

Post Military Correspondent

A man who complained that he had been kept idle for a week while on reserve duty in the army last month, was on Friday sentenced to seven days imprisonment, suspended for two years.

Michael Gvertzman was called to reserve duty for one week in early March for a refresher course at the Central Training Facility in the South.

When he had finished, he complained to friends that for the whole week he had done absolutely nothing. His story soon reached the military reporter of an afternoon paper who documented Gvertzman's day-by-day account of idleness.

The court did not accept Gvertzman's statement that he had not committed the offence of speaking to the press about his military service, but had spoken only to friends, and it imposed the suspended sentence.

## Katzir admitted to Royal Society

The President, Professor Ephraim Katzir, has been elected a foreign Fellow of the Royal Society, Beit Hanassi was informed yesterday by the Society.

The Royal Society, Britain's premier body of scientists, established in 1665, has not more than 50 foreign members, chosen from among persons of the greatest scientific eminence outside Britain.

Prof. Katzir, a biophysicist by profession, is the first Israeli Fellow.

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## Tel Aviv Univ. awards honorary degrees tonight

by SARAH HONIG

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — President Ephraim Katzir will be one of three recipients of honorary doctorates from Tel Aviv University this evening. The awards are the central event of the university's ninth board of governors meeting, which opened here yesterday.

The university Senate has decided to confer the honorary degree upon President Katzir "for his contribution to scientific progress, education



Shaul Avigur, one of three men to receive honorary degrees this evening from Tel Aviv University.

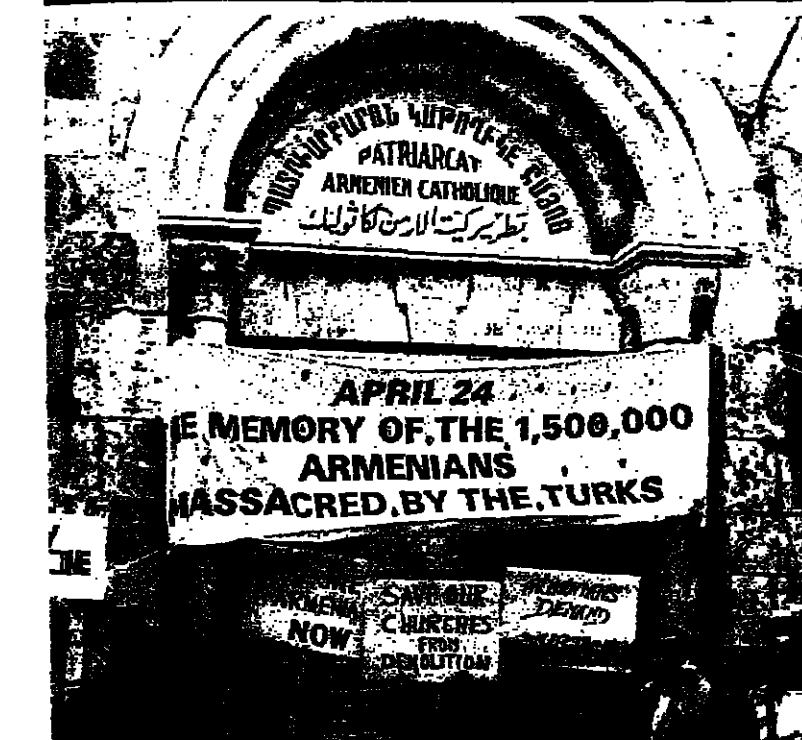
and development in Israel," among other achievements.

Another honorary degree will go to Shaul Avigur, head of Aliya "Bet," "in recognition of his part in rescuing entire Jewish communities from Asian and African countries during the first years of the state."

The third award goes to Fred Lessing of the U.S., for his assistance in rehabilitating Jewish refugees from Central Europe in the U.S. and for his philanthropy to many institutions, including Tel Aviv University.

The board meeting will last five days, with over 100 members from around the world taking part. (See article, page 5)

A NEW CENTRE for vocational training was dedicated in Gaza yesterday. It will offer two-year courses in carpentry and metalwork to 52 pupils between the ages of 11 and 14.



The 2,000-strong Armenian community yesterday observed, with a million other Armenians throughout the world, the anniversary of the extermination of over 1,500,000 of their men and the uprooting of their people from Anatolia at the end of World War One. The Armenian quarter of Jerusalem's city was closed for the day. Community members filed out in a procession in commemoration of the event. The massacre of Armenians, along with the later extermination of Jews by Hitler, considered the most heinous mass crimes in modern history.

## Special crime unit set up in gangster-ridden Lod-Ramle

By YITZHAK OKED

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Central Police Sub-division has formed a special police unit to fight crime in the Lod-Ramle area. The move comes in the wake of a series of robberies and murders in the area.

The unit was formed by the merger of two units from the Lod and Ramle districts, who say a has been turned into a city of crime.

Itz, who recently said that sn't exist on the police map, o a steady increase in the of robberies and cases of entering.

Officials say that un- dandising of buses at ade it impossible for the five to operate in the centre o that it had to move to a plot outside town (which it only staging a half-day strike).

That bus drivers who dared about the vandalism found lives and their families ed with violence.

al Police Subdistrict an Menashe Golan told The m Post, however, that the re not taken because of the

outcry. "We recently discovered that the crime wave in these two towns was on the increase and decided we must act," he explained.

Sgan Nitzav Golan said the policemen for the special unit had been gathered from all stations in the Southern Police District. They plan to remain in Lod-Ramle until there is a reasonable drop in the crime rate there.

Golan said the special unit's tactics would include surprise police check-ups on certain areas of town and increased patrols to prevent hooliganism, especially in the town centre and in public places. There would also be a beefed-up investigations group to try to track down thieves after they commit robbery.

The unit has already chalked up one small success. Last week a gang of six hoodlums attacked two persons sitting in a car in Lod and ruined the car. The unit quickly tracked down all six, whom a Tel Aviv District Court judge has already ordered kept in custody till the end of their trial.

**M** to a technical error, the KLM advertisement published on page 3 of yesterday's paper consisted of an outdated text containing an offer which expired on March 31. This advertisement was published last December and was erroneously reprinted.

The Jerusalem Post regrets any inconvenience caused to KLM and to any of our readers.

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## Avoiding a deficit in brain power

By LEA LEVAVI

TEL AVIV. — Israel's universities have to resort to deficit spending if the only alternative is a deficit in brain power, Prof. Haim Ben-Shahar, president of Tel Aviv University, believes.

At Aviv University's financial problems will be one of the topics discussed at the Board of Governors meeting here this week. But before meeting began, Professor Ben-Shahar gave a wider view of the problems facing all institutions of higher education in Israel.

Government support of higher education has been cut by about 30 percent in real terms over the past 10 years and Professor Ben-Shahar said that no similar cuts have been made in other public services. "I hope that the new government formed after the elections will take the problem seriously and not just chop our budget further out of serious thought."

On the short run, he explained, the universities are managing to maintain their quality despite the cuts. However, the long-range effects will be serious if the budgets are allowed to drop any further. "For example, library budget was cut by half 30 per cent less books were purchased. If this is allowed to continue over the years, the universities end up with outdated, insufficient libraries which will make teaching and research impossible."

Another serious problem caused by budget cuts is the universities' inability to absorb their outstanding debts. "The yordim (emigrants) don't feel it," Professor Ben-Shahar said. "If one of them can't pay a contract with some university, for say two years, and at that time, he's ready to come back, but there is no job here to come back to. Meanwhile, he has gone abroad on two-year contracts. All of a sudden, we will be up and see how many people have lost."

He said the university works on the basis of a balanced budget and even this, despite all the cuts, we have managed to balance. We cannot, under any circumstances cut the budget any further, and we will keep the real value of the

government's allocation at this year's level. If we don't succeed, we will have to opt for a deficit budget. However, he added, this will only be done if all the universities agree to take such action and if the policy-making public bodies in each university (such as the boards of governors) approve.

Turning specifically to Tel Aviv University, Professor Ben-Shahar said efforts are being made to increase the university's own sources of income so that the total available resources will rise. In the area of research, efforts are being made to get grants from foreign foundations. More applied research (for which there are local funds from industry and other sources) is also being undertaken. "But the important thing here is proportion. We will not let the university develop in areas we don't consider desirable just because there is money available in those fields. We also will not let applied research grow to the point where it equals the basic purpose of increasing mankind's knowledge."

In the area of teaching, the university is beginning to offer services to the general public. One example is the language centre recently opened on campus. Next year, courses on a popular level will be available in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

The emphasis in fund-raising is also changing. In the past, most of the money was raised for building the campus. "Today, only a small number of essential buildings are being planned, and most of the money sought is earmarked for carrying out the university's teaching and research work."

One type of building project considered essential is the extension of the university's libraries. "The existing libraries will not meet the needs of our students in the 1980's," Professor Ben-Shahar said. "Expansion of the libraries reflects an improvement in the quality of our students and their need for up-to-date materials to improve the level of learning."

As for funds for the day-to-day



Prof. Haim Ben-Shahar

work of the university, these are being raised by encouraging donors to set up endowment funds whose fruits will be used for specific projects. This enables the donors to become involved in specific academic activities and at the same time allows the university to make long-range plans with the knowledge that the endowment fund will continue to exist and yield resources.

Two examples which Professor Ben-Shahar thinks will be singular contributions by the university to policy-making in Israel are the Strategic Studies Centre (which will work on problems of defence and foreign relations) and the Sapir Development Centre (which will work on economic, social and cultural problems of domestic policy).

The Porter family of England has donated an endowment fund for establishing an institute to study the relationship between linguistics and literature, a field in which there is growing interest in both Eastern and Western countries. The Reconnat family has endowed a fund for academic projects at the Reconnat School of Business Administration. Other donors have made possible the establishment of research chairs in such diverse fields as theoretical physics and modern Judaism.

Despite financial worries, Professor Ben-Shahar is optimistic. He hopes that over the next 10 years, more students of Eastern backgrounds will enter the universities. As a result, he expects a renaissance of the boom Israel's universities experienced in the 60's and early 70's.

## A talk with the mystery man

By CATHERINE ROSENHEIMER

REVIEWERS often refer to him as a "British thriller writer." He is also described as a "peddler of serious entertainment."

"And what they rant on about a lot," says author Lionel Davidson in his broad North country accent, "is that I am comparable to John Buchan, Rider Haggard, Kingsley Amis — and occasionally they even call me the Jewish Graham Greene. When Rebecca West reviewed *Smith's Gazette* she called me as 'the new Kipling.' Unfortunately, no one has ever compared me to my real ideal as a writer: Christopher Isherwood. I would very much like to write about Israel, rather in a series of fables, in the way he handled Berlin in *Berlin Diary*."

The complex interlocking of fact and fiction in his novels invites parallels with Frederick Forsyth, I point out.

"Yes," he agrees readily, "but he is compared to me!" It is now nine years since Lionel Davidson and his family decided to leave their London home and settle in Herzliya. That decision, he says, was based primarily on personal considerations, not professional ones.

"I could write anywhere in the world. Even on a desert island for that matter. But emotionally, this is the only place I want to live in. It's not Zionism: I have a sister who is a fervent Zionist. She hasn't yet got around to living here, and I can't say that Zionist circles ever held any particular appeal to me. Living here, I feel simply as a Jew of this generation, neither an Englishman in exile nor an Israeli."

"Moreover," he adds, straight faced, sardonically, "who needs allya? If I have set some of my books in an Israeli background, propaganda for Israel has never been the motive. I'm not an ideologue, not an 'engaged writer.' There are far too many people here already for my liking. And the yordim needn't return either, filling up the roads with their big American tax-free cars. Seriously, I came here for fun. If it ever stops being fun, that's the moment I leave."

What is fun? "In all the situations I see around me, I find an abundance of what I can only call good Jewish humour: the crankiness, perversity and individuality of the people."

LIONEL DAVIDSON was born in Hull, one of a family of 10 children. Though he moved to London when he was two, the unmistakable accent persists to this day. He does that special brand of understated, wry humour peculiar to Britain's Midlands. He would still like to write a good novel about the fishing trawlers of Hull, he muses.

Davidson started his literary career with *The Rose of Tibet*, written while he was working as fiction editor of the long extinct *Odham's publication, John Bull*. Much of the background was suggested during the time he spent in India as a radio operator in the British Submarine Service. His long epic of adventure in a Tibetan monastery proved so realistic that he even received letters from people like the brother of the dispossessed Dalai Lama, demanding to know the whereabouts of documents relating to the monastery's treasure.

His next book was *The Night of Wenceslas* and his third novel was *A Long Way to Shiloh*. The latter was inspired by his first trip to Israel in 1961, and a lot of its background came from an ancient copy of Zev Vilnai's guidebook which he picked up while he was here. The book which followed, *Making Good Again*, is a thriller, set in present-day Germany, about the aftermath of Nazism.

Is he in any way a different writer since settling in Israel? He thinks not — but undoubtedly it was the fact of living here which involved him in the themes of the two books he has published since his immigration. "The only thing which has changed about my writing is that I find that, since I came here, it is impossible to work at home as I always did in the past. I think it must be simply that Israeli society is too distracting! In order to write *Smith's Gazette* I had to retreat to the *Casa del Sol* ranch in the Galilee. Now I have a simpler arrangement — I hole up in my Jaffa studio for days on end when I have to get down to work, close the shutters, unplug the phone, and exist on what my wife Fay leaves in the refrigerator. I turn night into day, day into night, and emerge again when I am ready."

The theme for *Smith's Gazette* — an old Beduin living in a ravine, making it his life's mission to tend to and ensure the survival of a near-

extinct species of gazelle; and his relationship with the young boy from a nearby kibbutz who discovers his secret abode — was suggested by a chance meeting with MK Avraham Yoffe at a dinner party. Yoffe told him the intriguing story of how some of his reserve wardens near Tirat Zvi had discovered a rare species of gazelle living in a remote ravine. Davidson embroidered on the story and the resulting novel, together with Shiloh and *Making Good*, won him the Shazar Prize for Immigrant Writers in 1973.

AFTER THAT he spent time building a house ("That's a subject for a book if ever there was one!"), and writing the script for Peter Ustinov's film, *Big Mac and Poor Clare*, which was made here. "It should have been good but it wasn't. I can only say I'm glad it never got to be fully released!"

He tried to get back to writing a book he had planned and researched when he was still in England but "the effect of Israel was that I realized that I couldn't write about London in Israel. I think now, at long last, I may have broken that bogey, because a strange thing happened with my last two books. The Weizmann Institute book — *The Sun Chemist* — was all written last year when I was in London, though of course I'd done all the research here. And right now, I'm on the final stages of revision of *The Chelsea Murders*. It's a kind of murder story, very much set in Chelsea where we were living for the year. It helps if you know English poetry — its rather like a paper chase. And, strangely enough, I've done most of the writing of it tucked away in Jaffa."

The way the *Sun Chemist* came about, he explains, is that one day he picked up an old copy of Weizmann's *Trial and Error* in a second-hand bookshop in a scruffy alleyway off Allenby Street.

"My copy had got lost in the move to Israel. I picked this one up and it fell open at the page describing Chaimchik's experiments in making petrol from vegetable matter. The whole idea lay dormant until the Yom Kippur War, when it occurred to me how ironic it would be, at the period of petrol shortage and

boycotts, if the solution to it all were to come from the experiments of Israel's first President."

Davidson went into the whole matter very extensively with Julian Meltzer, who was the public relations man at the Weizmann Institute for many years, and with the late Professor E.D. Bergmann, who had been Chaim Weizmann's junior assistant at the time of the experiments.

"They had fallen out after that, but Bergmann, still felt highly optimistic about the whole theory of taking vegetable matter and fermenting and refining it to produce tremendously high octane ketones. He personally felt it was too precious a substance to use for fuel, but that it had tremendous potential, being full of chemicals and 150 octane."

Under Davidson's pen, the whole thing evolved into a cloak and dagger search for a precious missing formula, involving undercover agents, murders, muggings and all the rest. He also chose to base the magic formula on sweet potatoes: not quite, he admits, on what Chaimchik based his own experiments — but why not?

"The things I write are a kind of enquiry game," he admits happily. And how did Meyer Weisgal, the president of the Weizmann Institute, react to having his name woven into the plot?

"Well, of course I showed him the manuscript — I don't know if he was delighted, but he didn't object either. Funny enough, the reaction I've had on that book has been the patchiest of all. *The Times* and *The New Yorker* raved about it, other reviewers hated it — maybe they're just jaded by the Israeli background."

NONE THE LESS, he has no intention of forsaking the Israeli environment in his novels. He plans a children's book based on diving adventures in Dahab and Sinai; he would like to write an Israeli James Bond; and he intends "in about seven years' time to start on a really big project." Just what it is, he is not prepared to say. It is planned, he says, in a kind of mental muddle. He hints that it is connected with his idea of "the Jewish return, that the mess in society here was brought about by the prosaic nature of the miracle. You feel like a voyeur in Israel. I am astonished this whole subject has never been written about."



Lionel Davidson

Why are his books — which are translated into several languages — not translated into Hebrew? He answers that, although his books translate well into many languages (but are not done in German, on principle), the idioms seem to come out badly in Hebrew.

As to why he publishes in London and New York, and not in Israel, he says: "I don't honestly know why — I never found the real reason for anything here!"

Does he feel he belongs to Israeli society? "Writers as a breed are not fully paid up members of any society. They are oddballs, and I am a member of that oddball populus, not really 'at home' anywhere."

"Israeli writers are different in that respect. They seem to treat their work as constant midwifery, or national service. I find a lot of them very insular, still writing the great 1920s novel set in Eastern Europe, totally unrepresentative of what is really happening here — the influx from Western countries, for example, or the problem of the yordim. Potentially, they are great writers, many of them. But they are just too totally engaged in the Israeli scene. When they write a book set elsewhere, they tend to project a very peculiar view."

The current Jerusalem Book Fair is, he says, now considered number two in importance on the world scene. Perhaps the fact that so many publishers are Jews is a contributing factor, but he finds it highly encouraging that such a large number of top publishers, including his own in Britain, will be attending this year's Fair for the first time. News has got around. □

GARDENER'S CORNER / Walter Frankl

## Hanging gardens

half your container with good garden soil and insert the whole potato. Cover it with 5 cm. of light, sandy soil. If your soil is heavier, mix it with an equal amount of sand or vermiculite. Also mix in a tablespoon of superphosphate or general fertilizer.

The plants must be watered regularly (2-3 times a week) but should not grow in soggy soil. Keep the sweet potato growing until the vines die back in late autumn or are nipped by frost. Carefully take the new tubers out and store in a dry, dark place for next spring. (The mother tuber is worthless for new propagation.)

For shady locations, plant spider plant (chlorophytum), columnea (aquilegium), violets, impatiens ("busy Lizzie"), lobelia, bellis (bath-hen), ajuga, asparagus sprengeri (half-shade) begonia semperflorens and corm begonias, as well as gloxinia (a beautiful bulb flower for half shade, flowering in late summer).

There are few plants so well adapted to hanging pots, wall baskets and outdoor or indoor growing as fuchsias. The easiest way to obtain a striking effect is to plant two or three fuchsias together. They need light, but do not do well in full sunshine. Another idea for shade planting is wild strawberries. I have grown them for years in baskets or other containers, in half shade in the garden or indoors near a sunny window. I pick aromatic, tasty, red strawberries year-round! For indoor growing, you may add peperomia, coleus and the bromeliads family like guzmanias, aechmea or bilbergia as well as ferns, African violets, hoyas (bat-sheva), etc.

SEVERAL DIFFERENT plants in

one container make a small hanging landscape. Hanging garden fountains have brought a new dimension to hanging hardware, baskets, plastic and glass bowls. But you do not have to buy expensive standard containers. Use your imagination to find a cheap substitute. Old cooking pots or objects from the flea market may yield items convertible to hanging "baskets." I have made containers from an old two-handle jug cradled in a rope sling, from an old teakettle, from an asbestos chimney-pipe head piece (turned upside down) and even from a hollowed out coconut.

In solid containers, holes must be drilled for good drainage. Since the weight of the basket increases as plants grow and become heavier with every watering, it is important to use a well-anchored hook, strong enough to support the weight on it, especially when the basket is hung outdoors and unprotected against strong winds. Plant hooks are standard hardware items. For hanging pots put directly on walls, there are commercially available brackets and chains. Instead of expensive swivels, S-shaped hooks of heavy wire may be used (see drawing).

Faithful watering is important for hanging plants, as the exposed position (including the bottom of the container) and swinging action will dry them out faster than if they were in the ground or on a shelf.

The most effective way to water hanging baskets is to take the container down entirely and dunk for several minutes in a bucket of water. Tepid water is absorbed faster. Let the basket drip dry before rehanging.

When hanging plants grow too tall or become overcrowded, pinch and thin as for balcony containers. Don't be surprised to find aphids or other pests. Use spray and poison dust, as in your garden routine, but never use poisoned material in your rooms! Take the container out to the garden or elsewhere to treat it.

A more complicated idea is to plant in bottles, glass bowls or ceramic containers, because with these a complicated system of drainage is needed to avoid root rot. More about these systems next week.

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Iriyat Tel Aviv-Yafo

16th National Exhibition of Amateur Painters and Sculptors—1977

Under the kind patronage of Mrs. Ziva Lahat, wife of the Mayor of Tel Aviv-Yafo will be held at Z.O.A. House, May 15—29, 1977. Two entries can be submitted by each artist from April 10 till May 3, 5 to 8 p.m. at Z.O.A. House, 1 Rehov Daniel Frisch, Tel Aviv. Registration fee: IL 75.— Further details: Tel. 259441. Prizes totalling IL12,000.— will be awarded in accordance with the decision of the jury.



# Former S. African international wins archery championships

By JACK LEON  
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — Jerusalem's Howard Lipschitz won the Israel Archery Association's seventh annual indoor championships, held at Beit Harbour here over the weekend, to register his third straight success in the competition.

Lipschitz, 34, totalled 529 points, appearing certain to break his own Israeli record of 536 points when he reached a score of nearly 530 with three of his 80 arrows still remaining. But the former South African international bowman suddenly seemed to suffer a rare lapse of concentration, and he was only able to add 10 more points, instead of the anticipated 25 or so.

Some 20 advanced archers and half a dozen juniors (under-18) took part in the meet, in which com-

petitors each shot 80 arrows from a distance of 18 metres, at a target 40 centimetres in diameter.

Lipschitz, who two months ago broke his Israeli outdoor archery record, has now won the indoor championships six times.

Haifa's Natfali Kastel finished second; Amnon Weinstein of the host club was third; fourth was Ramat Gan's wheelchair sportsman Aharon Kirchner, with 496 points.

Winner of the junior event was Freddy Khayatz of Haifa, whose impressive tally of 501 points constituted a local record. His clubmate Danny Talitman took second place, 15 points behind.

The tournament also saw the introduction of new competition for young beginners, in which several 12-year-old boys shot 30 arrows from a distance of 15 metres.

## Baseball standings

Baseball results and standings after Saturday's games:

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	PCT.	GB
St. Louis	9	5	.643	—
Montreal	7	8	.463	1
Pittsburgh	7	8	.463	1 1/2
Chicago	6	9	.400	2 1/2
New York	5	10	.333	3 1/2
Philadelphia	4	11	.264	4 1/2

### West

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Los Angeles	10	3	.769	—
Atlanta	8	5	.615	2 1/2
San Diego	7	6	.538	3 1/2
San Francisco	6	7	.462	4 1/2
Houston	5	8	.385	5 1/2
Cincinnati	4	9	.308	6 1/2

### Saturday's Games

Chicago 2, Cincinnati 1; Pittsburgh 6, New York 5; San Francisco 4, Montreal 2; San Diego 7-11, Houston 2-6; Philadelphia 11, St. Louis 1; Los Angeles 6, Atlanta 4.

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	PCT.	GB
Milwaukee	6	4	.600	—
Baltimore	6	4	.600	—
Toronto	5	5	.500	1 1/2
Cleveland	4	7	.364	3 1/2
New York	4	8	.333	4 1/2
Boston	4	7	.364	4 1/2
Detroit	3	9	.250	6 1/2

### West

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chicago	8	4	.667	—
Oakland	8	5	.615	—
Kansas City	7	6	.538	1 1/2
Minnesota	7	6	.538	1 1/2
Texas	7	6	.538	1 1/2
California	7	6	.538	1 1/2
Seattle	6	11	.353	4 1/2

### Saturday's Games

Oakland 3, Chicago 2; Kansas City 5, Seattle 4; New York 3, Cleveland 1, first game, second game postponed due to rain; Boston 4, Toronto, postponed; Baltimore at Detroit, postponed; Texas 5, Minnesota 0; Milwaukee 4, California 1.

### BLAST — An airport worker was killed in an explosion at Washington's National Airport Saturday. The Federal Bureau of Investigation said it was investigating the possibility that the explosion was caused by a bomb.

### CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINES: Jerusalem: Weekdays: 10 a.m. of day prior to publication. For Friday's paper: 5 p.m. on Wednesday. For Sunday's paper: 2 p.m. on Thursday. Tel Aviv and Haifa: Weekdays: 12 noon two days prior to publication. For Sunday's paper: 12 noon Thursday.

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### HEBREW

NEW CLASSES: April 25  
Beginners (from A.B.O.)  
at 4 p.m.  
Beginners (some knowledge)  
at 6 p.m.  
Intermediate reading, spelling  
and conversation — at 4 p.m.  
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advanced students:  
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3) at 6 p.m.  
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## ENTERTAINMENT

### TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL: 8.10 English 6, 8.30 Math & 9.05 Special Education. 9.25 Communications. 9.35 Art 10.35 English 6, 10.45 Story for kindergarten. 11.30 Science 7, 11.30 Math 6, 11.30 Story 12.30 English 9, 12.30 Math 7, 12.30 English 8, 12.30 Road safety, 12.35 Music, 12.35 Hebrew lesson, 12.40 Japanese Legend for children, 12.45 English 5, 12.45 Evergreen's University.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:

17.30 "Les Miserables" — a six part series based on the novel by Victor Hugo. With Jean Gabin. (Part 1) 18.00 Big Blue Marble: programme on children around the world. ARABIC LANGUAGE programmes: 18.30 News roundup, 18.35 Sports, 18.45 Projector, 18.50 Programme announcements, 18.55 News, 19.00 News, 19.05 Hebrew PROGRAMMES resume at 19.05 with Ovea Marshall, Counsellor at Law: For Children of Eve. With Arthur Hill, Lee Majors and Christine Matchett, 21.00 Mabab newsworld, 21.30 Othello — Orson Welles interpretation of Shakespeare's play. Acted and directed by Orson Welles, 22.00 Concert — Beethoven: Trio for Violin, Viola and Cello, Op.70. With Isaac Stern, 22.30 News, 22.35 JORDAN TV (unofficial): 18.40 Space 1999, 19.30 News in Hebrew, 20.00 News in Arabic, 20.30 Mr. Deeds Goes to Town, 21.10 Romance, 22.00 News in English, 22.15 Israeli 5-4.

\* Shows with asterisks are also on JTV 3.

### CINEMAS

Tel Aviv 4.30, 7.15, 9.30  
Alhambra: Qui je t'attire; Ben Yehuda: The Young Bride (La Nostra Giovane); Cinema: Logan's Run; Cinema: The Year is the Key; Cinema Two: The Tenant, 10.15, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Dekel: Silent Movie, 7.15, 9.30; Drive-In: The Gumball Rally, 7.00; All the President's Men, 9.30; Esther: I will... I will... for now; Gai: Nashville, 6.00, 9.00; Gordon: Nine; Hodi: Stretcher Drill; Lamer: Bluff; Maxima: Emily, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30; Megabab: A Star is Born, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30; Ramat: The Year is the Key; 9.30; Omer: Fun with Dick and Jane; Orly: Carrie; Parlo: The Fortune Cookie, 10, 12, 2, 4, 7.15, 9.30; Peor: Si c'è un refugio (Second Chance); Royal: Express, 10, 12, 2, 4, 7.30, 9.30; Ramat Aviv: Odd Couple; 9.30; Tel Aviv: Wednesday, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30; Teletel: L'Invitation; Tel Aviv: Mister Billion; Zafra: Cousin Cousine; Zafra: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30; Tzura: 8.00 only; Studier: Network, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30

Herzliya  
David: Stretcher Drill; Tzura: L'alle on la cuisine, 7.15, 9.15

Ramat Gan  
Armon: Marathon Man, 7.15, 9.30; Koenig: 4.00; Ramat: Stretcher Drill, 4.00, 7.15, 9.30; Odesa: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.00, 7.00, 9.30; Lili: To be or not to be, 7.15, 9.30; Ramat: Stewardesses, 7.15, 9.30; 4.30 on Mon. and Wed.; Ramat Gan: The Blue Bird, 7.15, 9.30

Jerusalem 4.00, 7.00, 9.15  
Armon: At the Races; Eden: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.00, 6.45, 9.15; Shalom: Gulliver, 4.00, 7.00, 9.15; Hahar: That Happened Between Twelve and Noon; Jerusalem: One New over the Cuckoo's Nest, 7.00, 9.15; Mitchell: The Battle of Midway, 7.00, 9.00; Orgid: Stretcher Drill; Omer: The Enforcer; Omer: A Star is Born, 4.00, 6.45, 9.00; Ramat: Pocket Money; Semadar: All the President's Men, 7.00, 9.15

Haifa 4.00, 6.45, 9.00  
Amphibious: The Enforcer; Armon: The Human Factor; Armon: I will... I will... for now; Chen: Dr. Zhivago, 4.30, 7.00; Mizra: Dress your Flesh with Desire, 6 parts; Moriah: St. Just; Omer: Niza; Orion: Bel Ami; Orly: Pocket Money, 6.45, 9.00; Peor: The Lost Honour of Katherine Bloom, 6.45, 9.00 in English; 4.00 in German; Ramat: Operation Thunderbolt; Shavit: Silent Movie, 6.45, 9.00

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Armon: At the Races; Eden: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.00, 6.45, 9.15; Shalom: Gulliver, 4.00, 7.00, 9.15; Hahar: That Happened Between Twelve and Noon; Jerusalem: One New over the Cuckoo's Nest, 7.00, 9.15; Mitchell: The Battle of Midway, 7.00, 9.00; Orgid: Stretcher Drill; Omer: The Enforcer; Omer: A Star is Born, 4.00, 6.45, 9.00; Ramat: Pocket Money; Semadar: All the President's Men, 7.00, 9.15

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# 11 sectors boom

AVIV. — In a burst of record activity the equities market moved ahead yesterday as all sectors showed a spectacular session. The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange index rose 10.1 per cent. Trading in the "ring round" alone accounted for 11.44. The trading in the "blue sector" was orderly and banks' representatives closed a session at a reasonable hour. Investment currency saw its uptrend by 16 agorot to 112.07, and rose to over \$600,000. Linked bonds also had a good day as the 3,000 series put on in the order of 3 per cent. The financial Union Bank continued to move ahead rapidly, the shares gained 13 to 414. The three major banks advanced slightly, in heavy demand. Among mortgage bank General Mortgage Bank gained 250, Mortgage and Development 260 after an 11-point rise. Housing "B" on the stock market list, gained six to 235, it was 14 ahead at 399. Finance shares were mixed, eased by 16 to 720. Haasneh up three to 313.5, the bar, on the bank, was 35 better at 900. Tzur advanced at 927. Service and utilities companies Delek Registered gained 67 to 510, while the bearer shares "buyers only" and fixed at 100. Storage IL10 shares "buyers only" and raised to 1.1, the IL10 shares traded up at 642. Israel Electric Corporation on a 35-point spurt to 247, was a heavy gainer. Development and real estate had their share of outstanding. Israel Land Development shares soared 23.5 points to 243.5, and Building continued its upward movement on an 18-point jump to 1,100. "Buyers only" at 636, Mehadrin gained 17 to 1,100. Israel Citrus Plantations

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an interview soft-pedalled the "warning against ion" statement issued by the ment of the exchange.	<div>בנק ישראל ת"א AMERICAN ISRAEL BANK LTD.</div> 						
and to remove the negative on attached by the manag- mittee to the term specula- the warning was not intended ople who are either	<div>FOREIGN CURRENCY 24.4.77 Official Exchange Rates</div> <table><tr><td>U.S. \$</td><td>9.2592</td><td>9.2870</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1.9870</td></tr></table>	U.S. \$	9.2592	9.2870			1.9870
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## Wage scramble

THE DOCTORS' strike was easy enough to foresee. First the hospital doctors got, now the clinic doctors want. This is what happens when the Government has no policy — other than to yield after putting on a show of resistance. Yielding against pressure invites pressure. It is almost a law of nature.

The country has undergone in the last half-year the most damaging series of walkouts in its history; and we have probably not seen the last of them. All groups are trying to get their wad before the elections. Union members have convinced themselves that in the vacuum of authority created by the Treasury, it is a holy duty to grab, otherwise you are left behind.

The sad fact is that they seem to be right. Collective agreements, which have contractual force, are studiously ignored. The new arbitration tribunal, set up under the presidency of Judge Ben-Zion, stands unused, because the strikers are not interested — despite the fact that they are legally obliged to accept its verdict.

Force is everything. He who does not brandish the mailed fist does not get. Is this a viable wage system?

The distressing instability of labour relations in recent years has hindered the country's economic advance; but it should by now have given a clear idea of what is wrong, and how wage policy can be handled better.

There is reason to suspect, with present hindsight, that the tremendously simple two-year collective agreements concluded with the Histadrut in 1976 (a fixed percentage rise for the public service — all of it — and another fixed percentage for everybody else) was never expected to stand. Henceforth, the approach must be different. Wage policy has to be negotiated on the assumption that a labour contract is binding.

That means checking the situation of every employed group ahead of time, and making upward wage adjustments where necessary. It is absurd, for example, to expect high-salaried groups like the seamen and airmen to swallow the new tax reform — at a time when the cost-of-living allowance only applies to part of their earnings, and prices are rising at the rate of 35-40 per cent annually.

The employers and the Histadrut should work out these problems at their own initiative, instead of waiting for workers' committees to take matters into their own hands. It would be worthwhile — if it was known that the collective agreements signed at the end are final.

They can be final, if they are fair, and if the employers make it clear that there will be no budging from the pledged word, strike or no strike. That too is possible, as the ship owners have just shown in their successful conflict with the ships' officers. Had that been realised beforehand — and had the ship owners also worked out beforehand a valid formula over the wretched dispute about differentials — the destructive shutdown of half of Israel's merchant marine might have been avoided.

**DRY BONES**

"FIRST RABBI AND HIS BANK ACCOUNT."

"NOW EBAN AND HIS BANK ACCOUNT."

"I'M THE ONE CANDIDATE WHO HAS NO PROBLEM WITH HIS BANK ACCOUNT!"

"OF COURSE THERE'S THE SMALL MATTER OF MY OVERDRAFT."

Eran Kirsch

## POSTSCRIPTS

WE ARE GLAD to know that Queen Elizabeth II has other things to worry about, apart from the mixed reception given to her in Australia.

Her crowned head is now uneasy at the thought that her first grandchild, due in November, may emerge into the world as a commoner since Princess Anne's husband, Captain Mark Phillips, is untitled.

The simple solution, AP reports, would be to give Captain Phillips an hereditary title to pass on to his offspring. But, according to Britain's "The Sun," the gallant captain is "not too keen on accepting a title just so that the baby can inherit it. The sensible solution is for Princess Anne to be made an hereditary peeress."

If the horse-loving princess were to be made either a countess or a duchess, courtesy titles would go to her children. If she were made a countess, a male child would become a viscount; if a duchess, he would be an earl. In either case, a girl-child would be a Lady.

The editor of "DeBrett," the standard book of the aristocracy, comments that "it would be unprecedented for the Queen to have a Mr. or a Miss as a grandchild."

He apparently doesn't even consider the possibility of a Ms.

# Peres — Yadin — Allon

## want peace —

A piece of Jordan  
 A piece of Egypt  
 A piece of Syria  
 Peace has a price!  
 Sheli is ready to pay it!

# Vote Sheli!!

THE RABIN AFFAIR has generated a spillover debate on the general merits of government regulations that are more often observed in the breach, or that are largely unenforceable.

Without going into the specific question of foreign currency regulations, it is undeniable that the multitude of government regulations, which seems to be an inherent feature of modern states, can "make offenders of us all" — as one election advert puts it. It is also undeniable that this country's "situation," and the state of the economy, must entail considerable state intervention and a certain amount of restrictive regulation. The question is, how much.

To decide this, we should first examine the country's bureaucratic machinery as it now exists. If there is one thing this machinery cannot be charged with, it is low output in promulgating regulations. But although it is sometimes alleged that government regulations are designed primarily to protect the broad public, this is by no means apparent. All that is obvious to the naked eye is that the bureaucratic mills keep churning out new regulations without respite.

Moreover, there is no monitoring of the overall cumulative result. Each new regulation might be admirable and necessary in its own right. But the sheer volume, taken together, can be counter-productive.

## For the record

# The DMC and the status quo



Dr. Manfred Gerstenfeld, one of Prof. Yigael Yadin's early supporters, tells *The Post's* ARYEH RUBINSTEIN why he is dissatisfied with the party's religious platform.

MANY RELIGIOUS voters who have been considering voting for the Democratic Movement for Change may be put off by the recent decision of its national council to allow its individual Knesset members freedom to vote and to initiate private member's bills on religious issues.

Even if they agree in principle, they will naturally look at the candidates who will be exercising that freedom of conscience. And they will find that not one of the top candidates on the DMC list is known for having promoted religious interests, while some of them are regarded with suspicion in religious circles.

This problem is troubling Dr. Manfred Gerstenfeld, who was the only Orthodox member of the nine-man group that prepared the announcement of the founding of Yigael Yadin's Democratic Movement, issued last November. Gerstenfeld, who was chairman of the World Union of Jewish Students from 1963 to 1967, played a key role in formulating the "Principles for a Platform," signed by the 77 founding members of the Democratic Movement. He is an economic consultant by profession.

AT FIRST, Gerstenfeld acted as coordinator of the economic thinking team of the DMC. But after the union with Shmuel Yadin persuaded him to assume the task of answering the questions of religious voters who showed an interest in joining the Democratic Movement for Change. Even before the original DM went public, he suggested that the founders should include at least one outstanding Orthodox personality. That this was not done he regards as a major mistake.

"Yadin's main goal," he says, "was to tackle the country's social and economic problems systematically. We felt that the situation was critical and that all other issues had to wait. Thus, persons with highly divergent views on foreign policy joined forces on a common social and economic platform."

"We regarded the question of relations between state and religion as an explosive issue but not a burning one. That is why we did not mention it at all in the 'Principles.' This was not a matter to be tackled at an early stage. But the plank adopted on religion changes things considerably."

"The national council, the DMC's supreme body, will exert no influence in this area. And our 48-word religious platform may create difficulties for the DMC after the elections."

"For the only viable coalition may well be one consisting of one of the two major blocs, together with the DMC and the National Religious Party. But will the NRP agree to join forces with a party that will not impose discipline on its Knesset members on matters that are of crucial importance to it? Or will we refuse to join a coalition with the NRP, thereby exposing ourselves to the charge that we have not set our priorities wisely?"

"THE DEBATE on state and religion," adds Gerstenfeld, "was expected to be one of the most dramatic discussions at the two-day meeting of the national council on April 11-12. But the agenda was far too crammed, and it was

That there is no central overseer and regulator was confirmed by a visit to the Justice Ministry. The purpose was to learn the comparative increase in the volume of new regulations over the years. No collated statistics were available, the implication being that no-one knows — or actually needs to know.

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS take effect upon being gazetted in Reshumot. These books, such as the 1975-6 two-volume Reshumot stretching over some 2,500 pages, are a hodge-podge of administrative provisions, including income tax tables, Port procedures, road signs, and so on. (A Justice Ministry official commented: "It was a fruitful year.") Long-term research would be required to bring some order and light into this dark maze.

Also confirmed during the visit was the fact that it was "very rare"

# Red tape and the public good

Each and every government department keeps churning out regulations which control our daily lives, but, argues

*The Jerusalem Post's* SHALOM COHEN, there is no-one to control the resulting bureaucratic maze.

for an existing regulation to be repealed.

The Justice Ministry's role here is largely one of checking the legalities of regulations before they are gazetted, and trying to make sure that they do not violate elementary justice. The ministry also acts as coordinator between government departments, where a regulation affects more than one department. Where the Justice Ministry and the ministry issuing a regulation differ, the matter is referred to the Attorney-General. Neither the Justice Ministry nor the Attorney-General have any say as regards the policy aims of regulations, this being the exclusive prerogative of the ministry concerned.

Former Attorney-General (now Supreme Court Justice) Meir Shamgar is reported to have given close attention to the need for

guidance to government departments in this area of "delegated legislation." He would ask departments to review "dead wood" regulations still on the books, and to check the continued necessity for existing "enabling laws" under which ministers may promulgate regulations.

His successor, Aharon Barak, is said to be carrying on the good work. But with what practical results? When asked about regulations which though completely unenforced are still on the books, like the Kanowitz anti-pollution and noise regulations, a Justice Ministry official argued that the fact that the Kanowitz example was so well-known proved it was an exception. Would that it were so.

IRONICALLY, the system of government intervention in the lives

of citizens by means of regulation was supposedly aimed to protect the public against the excesses of laissez-faire economics. Yet the bureaucratic machinery itself functions in a laissez-faire manner — even with the good will on the part of its operators.

Though the dilemma is common to contemporary societies in general, it is compounded in a country with a population of 3.5m., since it requires a sizable chunk of this population to really enforce all the regulations on the books.

The bureaucratic situation is widely deplored by political leaders of stripes. But no action has been taken to cure it, nor is any action being promised — except in vague election platforms.

Here, then, for the politicians' consideration is a suggested programme of action:

The next Government will appoint a high-powered commission of experts to look into the working of the entire bureaucratic machinery, to recommend the streamlining of procedures, the elimination of duplication, and the repeal of essential regulations and review the situation in each government department in the light of the country's overall needs, and it will report its findings and proposals directly to the next Prime Minister.

Any takers?

## READERS' LETTERS

### SEAMEN'S DEMANDS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*

Sir, — As a seaman of 27 years' standing, having served as fireman, oiler, donkeyman and fitter before becoming an officer, I consider myself qualified to correct some of the misconceptions apparent in your article concerning working conditions on board our ships today — at least as far as the engine department is concerned.

Whereas 20 years ago, a fireman or oiler was a professional doing a skilled job, leaving the watch-keeping officer in a purely supervisory position, a rating today is usually an unskilled labourer of the lowest order, imbued with the conviction that, if he does anything at all during his normal eight hours, he has already done too much and coming to life only when overtime or special pay are involved.

When doing a piston job, a bottom end, or a crosshead, it is the lower-echelon officer who does the hardest manual work. It is this officer who will work for 24, 36 or sometimes more hours, without rest or special pay when emergency repairs have to be performed at sea. It will not be that well-nourished fellow whom I've seen screaming his head off on TV who works while I sleep, but the other way around — as well he knows.

Therefore, when on pay day, as is not unusual, I find that a motorman whom I've been virtually carrying on my back all trip long earns as much as I do, and on occasion, even more, when I find that a donkeyman, who works easier hours at a less responsible job, gets almost twice as much as I do, then I may be excused for being angry.

Of course, the remedy to all this is not what our union is apparently trying to do — namely to burn down the house to spite the bedbugs — but to change a system that has produced a generation without work morale or pride in a difficult job well done.

The sooner we all realise this, the better. Otherwise, Arafat, Sadat and Assad can just sit back and let us do their job for them.

YOEL ELLENBERG  
 Haifa.

### TIME FOR AN AMNESTY

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*

Sir, — It has become unbearable for the Jewish people in Israel and the Diaspora to live in shame at the constant disclosures of criminal offences in high places since the Yom Kippur War. We have all had enough of it. The time has come for our Government to create conditions for a new national life.

A first step in this direction would be for the Government to declare an amnesty for economic, foreign currency, income tax evasion and other similar offences. Other countries have offered such amnesties. For instance, Switzerland offered its citizens an amnesty for tax offences so that they could make amends and no longer live in fear.

An amnesty in our country would enable certain offenders to make amends for irregularities by administrative measures. Of course, this amnesty should be governed by certain conditions. For instance, offenders would have to pay 50 per

### APPEAL TO THIEVES

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*

Sir, — In four days in mid-April, thieves in Caesarea have broken into at least three rented cars and stolen everything belonging to three different tourists. At least one set of tourists — a Protestant minister and his friend from New Hampshire — have had to return to the U.S. without anything at all to show for their 13 days in Israel.

They are especially appealing to the thieves to return the irreplaceable items: a Bible, a journal, books and the undeveloped film. They ask that the passports and money be kept, if those are the things the thieves want. But if they will contact the American Embassy in Tel Aviv to let them know where the other things can be found, the tourists will be eternally grateful.

THE REV. EMILY FREESTON  
 DAVID SAWYER  
 Tel Aviv.

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**FRENCH EMBASSY**

Second Competition of Students of French at Israeli High Schools

The French Embassy in Israel together with "The Public Committee for Youth Exchanges" and the Israeli Ministry of Education and Culture are organizing a competition in those outstanding students of French in the "Yad-Al-Gra" Grade of Israeli High Schools.

17 of the most outstanding competitors will be awarded a prize of a 2 week trip to France, to Paris and to Youth Centre in one of the provincial cities. The students will be accompanied by 2 Israeli supervisors.

The costs of the ticket Tel Aviv-Paris-Tel Aviv and the stay in France will be paid by the French Government.

This competition is open to the following candidates:

- Whoever was born in Israel or immigrated to Israel before entering junior school and who has completed all his studies successfully and without interruption in Israel.
- New immigrants who commenced their French studies in Israel only and who have been studying at an Israeli High School continuously and successfully from grade "Zayin" or "Tet".

Whoever is chosen as a competitor will be required to complete an entrance form in 2 copies, one in French and one in Hebrew. These forms should be signed by the school principals who should forward them to the National Supervisor for French Studies by 22 April, 1977.

A written examination will be held on 10 May, 1977 at the Tel Aviv Youth Centre. Candidates who are successful in the written examination will have an oral examination at the French Embassy in Tel Aviv on Tuesday, 6 June, 1977.

For further details school principals should approach the supervisors for French studies at their schools.

## A Call from the Yeruham Group (Garin)

A group of religious new immigrants from Western countries is preparing to set up a special education project in Yeruham, the Negev.

People in education, psychologists and social workers interested in joining the group, are invited to a study day on the project, which will take place on Wednesday, April 27, starting at 9.30 a.m. at the Yeruham Local Council offices.

Details and registration: contact, David Ben Na'eh, "Hamiz-rachi" Young Guard, P.O.B. 588, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-35282; Aharon Zar, Secretary of Yeruham Local Council, Tel. 057-80246; or Dany Malka, the Centre for Direction to Development Towns, 6 Rehov Esther Hamalka, Tel Aviv, Mondays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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